



BULLetin



February 2001

DX WILL ALWAYS BE!

Next General Meeting

The SCDXC meets the second Thursday of the month. Our next meeting will be held Feb 8, 2001 at 7:30 PM, at Jun's Electronics, 5563 Sepulveda Blvd. (Exit the San Diego Fwy (405) at Jefferson and proceed east to Sepulveda Blvd. Then North about 200 yards.)

We'll be showing the 'World Renowned FO0AAA Video at the February 2001 meeting.

Club Dues

A reminder to all those who have yet to send in your 2001 club dues. Please send your check for \$18 dollars to the Membership Chairperson NOW. The address is:

Harv Shore K6EXO
6433 Pat Ave
West Hills CA 91307.

Club dues are considered past due after Dec. 31. The "grace period" is over on March 1. After that date you will be dropped from the roster.

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Soap Box— Words from our NEW President



Chuck, KR6C,
President of the
SCDXC for 2001

The first thing I would like to say is thank you for your confidence in voting me as the President of the SCDXC for year 2001. I am very

honored to accept this position and I am look forward to leading the SCDXC into the new millennium. I would like to give a very big Thank You to Jim Zimmerman, N6KZ, for the outstanding leadership he has provided over the past years, and I look forward to having him as an advisor as I take over the paddles and look forward to leading the club into the exciting future. I would also like to welcome the new board and say I am looking forward to working with you and sharing your new ideas. A couple days after the election I sat back and thought about the past couple years that I have been affiliated with this club. I realized just how much this club contributes to the

good will of Amateur Radio and society as a whole. I can honestly say this because I have experienced it first hand. A few years ago I was DXing from a condo in Moorpark, mostly with a General ticket and invisible antennas. With #22 gage wire dipoles mounted to the roof vent and fed with 125 feet of RG-58, and a end-fed wire in the tree, I was thrilled when I worked a new one because it was such a challenge. The DX Clusters were just starting to make an appearance (what a great idea!) and the internet? What was that? It didn't seem like much information was available for DXing except for some

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2001 Election Results

We congratulate the newly elected officers for the SCDXC. They are:

President:
Chuck Constantine, KR6C
Vice President
Herb Rosenberg, KG6OK
Secretary
Cathy Gardenias N6DXC

Treasurer
Skip Bolnick, KJ6Y
Membership Chairman
Harvey Shore, K6EXO
#1 Director
Neal Kaltman, K6SMF
#2 Director
Charlotte Iseda, KB6SFX
Immediate Past President

Jim Zimmemann, N6KZ
In addition the following are appointed officials:
Bulletin Editor: Harvey Shore K6EXO
Bulletin Publishers: Len Svidor W6AUG and Ray Johnson AD6KQ
Contest Awards : Larry Shapiro K6RO
Web Master: Bruce Horn WA7BNM



Chuck presented Jim the
BLACK Badge



A Few of the new board.
Chuck, Cathy, Skip, Harv, Herb

(Continued from page 1)
magazines.

I didn't know anyone in the local area who was interested in DXing like me. I had visited some of the local clubs only to find them focused in small groups discussing repeaters or talking about each other. They didn't seem too receptive to outsiders. I had inquired at some of these local clubs about the SCDXC and received some pretty interesting rumors about a wild bunch of egotistical guys who like to fist-fight! One day during my commute to work I had stumbled upon the W6AM repeater and met a couple of great guys who kindly chatted with me about DX and invited me to one of the club meetings. Their calls were WU6T and K6EXO. I was hesitant at first because of the distance to the meeting and concerns about the rumors I had heard. I finally decided to go and was very surprised when I was warmly greeted by a large, diverse group of individuals who were more than friendly to the new comer. I was truly impressed with the accomplishments of its members and their overall good nature. I received several answers to my inquiring questions and received several tips on DXing, which really started to pay off as my count was starting to climbing. It wasn't long after that I decided to move to the Antelope Valley to be closer to work and to own a house that didn't have CC&R's so I could have my dream installation...a tower and a beam (and someday an amp). It wasn't long after I moved I was contacted by a DXer with the call of N6KZ and received a warm welcome to the neighborhood. Jim stated he was a club member and offered me a ride to a meeting. I once again hesitated due to the increased distance but remembered how enjoyable the couple previous ones had been. I accepted and soon after that

I met K6NDV and K6ZZ, who were also local area members of the SCDXC who were willing to assist any way they could. Needless to say I had started to make many new friends with people in the club.

Two years ago, I was asked if I would consider being nominated for a board position. I had to think about it at first because I was fairly new to the club and wasn't familiar with how things were done, but decided I liked the club and members enough to participate in its operation. Over the past two years, I have been involved with the main operations of the club and have realized that its member's day-to-day activities and club functions touch the lives of hundreds of individuals, DXers and non-DXers, all over the world. This is done by the correspondences we have with other DX clubs and DX operations, the DX visitor who may be making a brief stop in Los Angeles only to be hosted by local members or warmly welcomed at a club meeting, by the members who travel all over the world on DXpeditions touching the lives of others in remote parts of the world, by the fine programs that are given at our monthly meetings, by the outstanding effort provided at the Visalia convention, by the financial donations we provide to the DX foundations, by the daily on the air QSO's our members have with other stations, or by the simple outreaching of helping hands to the DXer who is just starting out. It is because of this generosity, that I am truly honored to be the President of such a fine club. I think each and every one of our members can also look back and realize the long-standing success and reputation of this club is made possible by the contributions and participation of its members and because of that, I would like to say Thank YOU.

The Veeeeeep Speaks

By Skip, KJ6Y

I want to thank everyone for having confidence in me and voting me to the office of Vice President. The competition was tough and I hope to live up to your expectations. I look forward to working with Chuck, KR6C, Herb, KG6OK, Cathy, N6DXC and the rest of the Board. I'm sure this will be a great year for the SCDXC.

We have several programs planned for the year, including of course the Visalia Convention, Anchors Away Night, and a Club picnic. If you have any ideas or a program that you'd like to share with the Club, please let me know, either by phone, e-mail, or CW (slowly).



I would like to thank Howard Elovitz, W6EGZ for donating a couple of very nice connector adaptor kits for our raffle. I recently finished Howard's tower/antenna installation and he's now working the DX he couldn't hear from Chicago. He's worked a bunch of new ones on 6 meters.

Let me finish by wishing everyone a belated Happy New Year and lots of new DX for 2001.

E-Mail Delivery of the BULLETin — a status report

E-Mail is now the standard method of distribution for the BULLETin. This month almost all of the Club members will receive the BULLETin electronically. This system sends the newsletter as a .PDF attachment to E-Mail. You will require Adobe Acrobat Reader (Version 3 or better). Acrobat may be downloaded from www.Adobe.com without charge. You will get the BULLETin early and you will see the glorious color in the many photos, etc. we publish. We also foil the postal system — they can no longer lose or tear up your copy. We suggest ARRL members subscribe to the free E-Mail forwarding they provide (e.g. YOURCALL@arrl.net). That will insure you get the BULLETin if you change your provider.

We are currently working on a process that will greatly speed up the download of the BULLETin. More on that at the coming meeting.

If you are receiving this by the postal service it means that either we do not have a good Email address for you or you have asked to continue receiving the BULLETin by mail. **We ask you to please send us your Email address.**

PLEASE NOTIFY the BULLETin EDITOR of any change. **If you do not have e-mail capability please let us know.**

Spotting Derby

The "spotting derby" was started a few years ago when I was looking for a way to acknowledge the on-the-air activity of club members. I am a Sysop in the So Cal PacketCluster network and the "node log" had the data we needed to meter the activity of users. W6EL wrote the software and the Packet Derby was born. This year the grand winner is KG6OK, Herb. The runner ups were: 2nd place W6TG, 3rd place W6VX N6HY was fourth and K6YRA number five. I congratulate all those who participated in the "contest."



We are pleased to announce that KG6OK was the winner of the Packet Derby for the year 2000.

Herb was awarded a certificate and will hold the new perpetual trophy for the year. This trophy will be passed on to the next years winner, etc.

As has been our custom, Herb will be given the opportunity to adjust the points/contact database for the year 2001 Derby.

Now lets look at the results of the January efforts. The bands were good and our guys were out in force.

Here are the scores posted for the month of Jan 2001.

Spotter	Spots	Score
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W6LAX	153	295
W6TG	78	278
AD6KQ	61	200
W7RF	64	186
W6VX	49	181

de K6EXO



N6HY	110	175
AA6NP	65	172
K6YRA	37	144
WA6TLA	45	135
WA5VGI	63	116
W6AUG	61	113
K6YUI	28	103
N6DHZ	52	95
W06M	42	93
K6RO	30	92
W6KK	43	87
N6KZ	49	78
K6GXO	34	69
K6IRA	49	61
KN6H	20	51
W6SR	20	45
W6EA	9	39
KR6C	10	37
W6RJ	14	30
W6YY	3	27
KJ6Y	15	25
K6FG	4	24
W6FW	6	18
AI6Z	10	16
W3SE	7	16
N6IC	10	15
N6RT	6	15
WB6PSY	6	15
W6RW	2	12
KC6T	6	11
W6RT	5	9
N7CQQ	2	8
W6OM	6	6
W6GA	4	6
W6ZH	4	6
W6YJ	4	4
KB6FB	1	4
K6WS	2	3
WN6J	1	3
K6JW	2	2
KG6OK	1	2
NQ6N	1	1
W6Y00	1	1
K5KT	1	0
N6ED	1	0



The Derby Trophy is a crystal globe and will be passed on to future winners.



Herb was a happy guy when he accepted the winners trophy.

DXer of the year

Nominations for DXer of YEAR should be submitted to the board by MARCH 1st.

Clipperton Award

New members are invited to apply for the Clipperton Award. Check with K6RO for the details.

Ham Puzzle

by Milt W6RJO

Answer to last months Puzzler

What was the problem with our buddies patent idea to "spread out" the signals?

It's the doubler that undoes it. This non-linear device (doubler) that must be used to double the original frequencies unfortunately will also mix them, giving sum and difference frequencies. The sum frequencies work out to be separated by only 1 KHz-the original separation. So the signals will be mixed (heterodyned), the total producing signals at 908, 909, 910, 911, 912 KHz,



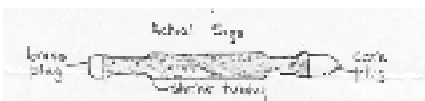
AMATEUR RADIO GIANT BILL ORR, W6SAI, SK

We are saddened to report that another Amateur Radio legend is gone. William I. "Bill" Orr, W6SAI, of Menlo Park, California, died in his sleep January 24. He was 81.

plus others.

Spurious frequencies will be present when any two of the original signals are present, and will sound similar to listening to the wrong sideband. So HHH is back where he started from with respect to the original signal separation.

For this month we look at the purpose of a useful tool that you can build.



Look at the sketch of this gem. It is a must for servicing radio circuits. It looks like a ladies eyebrow pencil. It has an aluminum shank with a brass plug, made from some brass nuts and a brass bolt, fastened to one end. The other end has a plug made of a small piece of core from an old broadcast receiver internal antenna. The whole is encapsulated in black shrink tubing with each end protruding from the tubing. What is it, and how is it used?

Remember — correct answers earn you a free ticket to the raffle at the next club meeting.

ARRL Raises Dues

Meeting in Irving, Texas, January 19 and 20, the ARRL Board of Directors voted to increase membership dues from \$34 to \$39 annually for full members younger than 65, and from \$28 to \$34 for full members 65 and older. The dues hike goes into effect July 1, 2001. The last ARRL dues increase was in July 1997.

ARRL SSB DX at PJ2

Larry, K6RO, and Charlie, W6KK will operate from PJ2 Curacao from Feb 27 to March 5th. K6RO will be doing a single op all band for ARRL SSB using the call PJ2R.

Before and after the contest they will be using PJ2/K6RO and PJ2/W6KK.

They plan operation on all bands using CW and SSB. Band-country skeds are no problem.

QSL PJ2R via K6RO and home calls for PJ2/

W6KK at CE0ZT - ISLA SAN AMBROSIO

Charlie is a member of the team going to CE0 for a 9-10 day operation. Start date is about Feb 10. Watch the bands!



Is this the ULTIMATE hamshack?

We Remember these QSLs !



Mr. Editor,

You asked that we send you some of our most interesting QSLs. Ok, here are three --- These are cards I sent while operating in the countries noted. I also have some from Guam, Hawaii, Canal Zone, Puerto Rico, Germany etc, but these three are probably the rarest. Over the years I have had 22 different calls so I



attached to any one of them.

ET2TO ---- that was Eritrea before it became a part of Ethiopia and later split off to become Eritrea again. My Moroccan QSL (CN8JE) has a picture of my Moroccan ham license in the background --- written in French and Arabic. I won the ARRL DX Contest from there.

I was in field engineering for a number of years and everywhere I was sent, my first priority was to try to get on the air, the second priority was to try to learn the language (I speak six lan-



judges). If the country had a Scouting program I would try to become active with it as well. It was great while I was single --- not so great after I got married.

Tom Orr, W6HT

Ed. Note:

I wonder if any of the gang has these OSLs from Tom?

from my faithful ICOM IC-706!

As I pulled out of the parking structure after work that evening in El Segundo, I was hearing a local working somebody on the six-meter DX calling frequency of 50.110 MHz, and I could weakly hear the "somebody"! Having heard the New Zealand television stations video carrier "beacons" on 45.240/250/260 MHz for the previous three weeks – at times Q5 even without an antenna attached! – I suspected the "somebody" might be South Pacific DX. So I immediately headed west toward the beach, listening all the way.

Minutes later, as I pulled to the side of the road on Vista Del Mar at the end of the runways at Los Angeles International Airport overlooking the blue Pacific ocean, I gave the VK a couple quick calls and had him "in the log" in about 120-seconds!

That was April '00, and the six-meter propagation is peaking once again right now! It will do so one last time next March & April '01 as we reach the predicted peak of this solar cycle! There's even DX on the six-meter PSK-31 calling frequency, 50.290 MHz. Need I say more?

Where there's a will, there IS a way! Very best regards and good DX!

Joe Cadwallader, K6ZMW



VK on 6M MOBILE!

Those of us trapped in apartments in metro-LA have to work "just a little harder" to stay in the competitive DX game! So the VK card might at first glance produce a yawn from the casual DXer, until you read the fine print!

Yes, that's Australia on six meters mobile, running 100 watts to a quarter-wave whip

A DXpedition On The Cheap!.. de W6SWM

Ed note: Here is an story from W6SWM, an old member of the SCDXC. He remembers attending meetings with Ed Willis and Dick Reimer and many Visalia years. He sort of laments not seeing Candy coming out of W6AOAs b'day cake. Frank is now retired in Florida.

It is really fun to work DX! Exchanging "signal reports" and names with a DX station makes for a happy feeling. However, it can be frustrating breaking a tremendous "pile-up" on a "rare one." Have you ever wanted to be that "rare one" and have the pile after you?

"Too expensive," you say. Or, perhaps you think you have to travel to some far away island. I want to tell you how to do a "DXpedition On The Cheap" almost from your own back yard.. practically. We did it twice already. It's easy.

We have all earned our WAS and DXCC and proudly hang the certificates on the walls of our shack. Now, a more recent challenge, the Islands-On-The-Air (IOTA) organization allows us to collect more wallpaper. The bands often perk up when you hear someone say; "It's a new IOTA" and the piles can be very exciting. Many IOTA locations are local (e.g. within a few hours drive from my current QTH in Gainesville, Florida). Cedar Key and Saint George Island are examples of many near by locations having separate IOTA numbers. The island doesn't have to be extremely rare. A few weeks earlier there had been an IOTA Contest and a group of hams operated from St. George with beams and High Power. But there are lots of hunters who need a contact from IOTA Number 85.

With a short drive and minimum equipment, I knew I could have "The World" calling on 14.260 MHz. (That frequency is often the spot where hams operating from an IOTA might be heard). So — let's do it!

My buddy, W3KT, and I packed a TS-850 and FT-901 in the back of my Jeep

Cherokee. On the roof, we tied two Cushcraft Verticals. We headed for the State Park on St. George Island. The fee was \$4 a night each including the electric "hook-up" and a super clean rest room/shower facility with plenty of hot water. We brought our own food for cooking and plenty of cold drinks were stashed away in the portable cooler.

The Verticals were strapped to wooden posts which were already in place at the campsite. We had pre-assembled the antennas and then broken them down for transport. So in just a matter of minutes we were up and operating.

At 2 am, the entire world "opened" and propagation was everywhere. While working Europe, a station from Japan called. We stood by for JA stations only and had a dozen in the log within a few minutes.

Then a woman's voice was heard. So we stood by for "the YL only." She was in Australia and her call ended with OJ. When asked if it meant "orange juice," she said they had plenty there. Within a few minutes a ZL called in, then a South American. In the midst of this tremendous pile (about 3 am), Africa started to "roll in." The verticals were great! Wherever the propagation was coming from, we heard it. In 22 hours, nearly 1000 QSOs were in the log.

Now that we are home we are experiencing the arrival of hundreds of QSLs. . Every day, there are at least 20 envelopes in the box with IRCs or dollar bills inside, all wanting a QSL Card confirming St. George.

I call it my mini-DXpedition; or what I like better is: "DXpedition On The Cheap."

P.S. Anybody interested in answering all the hundreds of incoming QSL Cards? Hi

Antenna Comments By Alan, K6ACZ

Hope everyone has been able to work the great DX that's been on the bands lately.

I wish I could be one of the many with a tri-bander and a tower. Actually I have a Rohn tower, Ham-M rotor, and a Mosely TA-33 safely stored away in my garage waiting for the day I can move to a single house and lot in an antenna friendly area. I sure miss the use of our Boeing ARC super station K6NX which is temporarily QRT.

For the last year or so my only antenna has been my R5 vertical. I did have a MFJ-1786 Loop up for several years then in July of 1999 I had to take it down when my roof was replaced and I never got around to putting the loop back up until last week. I have antenna restrictions here but I

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Propagation—February 2001

by Shel, W6EL

These predictions for the five prime HF bands show the times when propagation is expected to be best from Los Angeles to several locations that are expected to be active during the coming month. Other times are possible, but with weaker signals or lower probability. Openings are not expected on bands that are not listed. A solar flux of 168, corresponding to a sunspot number of 120, and an average geomagnetic field are assumed.

Sunrise/sunset times are at the DX location. All times are UTC.

Good luck and good DX from Shel, W6EL.

YK Syria - 2/3 to 2/12 -
Beam 20 degrees
Sunrise/sunset (on 2/8) 0423/1501
80: 0300-0400.
40: 0100-0530.
20: 2200-0430. Long path 1430-1530.
15: 1600-1730.

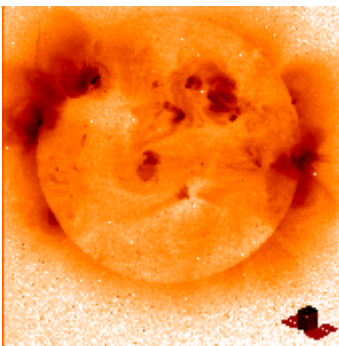
PY0P St. Peter & Paul 2/7 to 2/15 -
Beam 90 degrees
Sunrise/sunset (on 2/11) 0813/2011
80: 0400-0730.
40: 0200-0800.
20: 0000-0930.
15: 1430-0230.
10: 1530-0030.

D6 Comoros - 2/8 to 2/28 -
Beam 41 degrees
Sunrise/sunset (on 2/18) 0309/1529
40: 0230-0300. Long path 1430-1500.
20: 0000-0430. Long path 1400-1630.
15: 1500-2400.
10: 1630-2130.

T32 East Kiribati - 2/11 to 2/25 -
Beam 240 degrees
Sunrise/sunset (on 2/18) 1651/0446
80: 0630-1430.
40: 0430-1500.
20: 0230-1700.
15: 1630-0430.
10: 1730-0300.



FO/M Marquesas - 2/11 to 2/29 -
Beam 209 degrees
Sunrise/sunset (on 2/20) 1526/0341
80: 0600-1400.
40: 0400-1430.
20: 0200-1630.
15: 1530-0730.
10: 1630-0330.



A recent photo of our Sun showing activity that should be welcomed by DXers

CORRECTION

Our past president, Jim Zimmerman, asks that a correction be made to his message in the January issue of the BULLETIN. "I erred in my mention of last years chairman of the DX Convention. WU6D and K6NDV were co-chairs. N6IC was a committee member."

DX Convention 2K

A Compliment

Ed note: It is nice to know that the SCDXC has made a friend. N6IC passes on this article.

Don sez—"In the January 2001 issue of World Radio is a well written article by SMØJHF talking about California."

"I rounded off my California trip by attending the Visalia DX Convention. It was exhausting. I normally avoid Crowds. It felt like a big West Coast pile-up, hundreds of call signs and faces that I tried to memorize --- I missed my logging computer.

The event was SO WELL ORGANIZED AND WORTHWHILE that I have changed my view on Ham conventions --- I might attend others, too."

(The convention committee thanks SMØJHF for the nice words)

QSL Via —

NIGER, 5U7DG, QSL via K4SE.

THE GAMBIA, C56/G2YT, QSL to home call.

SOUTH SHETLAND ISLANDS. CE9/R1ANF, QSL via RK1PWA.

TAJIKISTAN, EY8JJ, QSL via LA5JX.

MINAMI TORISHIMA, JD1BCK QSL via JM1TUK.

BANGLADESH, S21YT, QSL via JA7KXD.

SAN MARINO, T7. Tony, T77C, is usually QRV on 18070 kHz around 0600z.

VIETNAM, 3W7CW, QSL via SP5JTF.

BOTSWANA, A24DX, QSL via ZS1FJ.

BAHRAIN, A92ZE, QSL via K4SXT.

Ramblings:

Ed. Comment — I promised that I would never publish stuff from the e-mail reflections as so much is pure trash. However, when I saw this response to a question on how chasing DX has changed (for better or worse) I could not resist. Any comments? (the text has been edited for space considerations)

Hi Jim:

If you've been an active for 44 years, then you know that DX has changed as new technologies have appeared. So the challenge is to change with the times, or give up. I don't mean give up Ham radio or even DXing, but to give up trying to compete. Maybe DXing never was a fair game. Maybe those who had more money did buy bigger amplifiers, monobanders and had taller towers. When I worked my 320+ last cycle, I sure wasn't in the first wave who broke the pileup. I usually worked them on the 3rd or 4th day, and I didn't get them on 9 bands and three modes, either.

The ones I did get, though, were obtained by listening to the pileup and figuring out the patterns of the DXpeditioners. That is why I KNOW the toughest ones to work are those who say "listening 200-210" but either sit on one frequency or pick out the loud stations at random. But you didn't want a rehash of how it was, or why I don't like it anymore. Here's how to work DX in the year 2000. Feel free to jump in, and point out where I am in error.

1. It helps to have top of the line radio gear as in the past (big amps, monobanders, and the latest DSP enhanced rig.) None of this is as important as it used to be.
2. Forget about skill and experience. Neither is required.
3. Replace item (2) with one or two fast computers and broadband Internet connectivity.
4. Connect to a global Packet cluster, and you must also ensure your radio is computer controlled.
5. Also your rotator should be interfaced to your computer. The initial setup is the hardest. You must click on the menu to bring up the countries list, and tick off EVERY one you need. This is tiresome, boring and will take at least 10-15 minutes.
6. Then stick a baby monitor receiver on your belt, and put the transmitter beside the computer speaker. Go watch TV, or whatever your other hobby is.

7. Sooner or later, you will hear a squawk from the speaker on your belt. This means that a country you need has been spotted. Go to the radio room and you will note that the rig has been tuned to the band/frequency of the spot, and the beam has been turned to the optimal direction. You might have to think a bit here. If it is near the lower edge of the band, it's likely CW (a lot of that Morse code stuff coming out of the speaker is another clue.) If it is in the phone portion of the band, you will have to use the microphone, as it is likely SSB (the clue here is voices, and if someone says "ooOLLA" then it's definitely SSB.). If CW, follow (a) below, if SSB, follow (b)

(a) Press F1 several times to send out a blast of dots and dashes that represent your call sign. Watch the computer screen, and if your CW decoding program plus the DSP filtering of the radio and your sound card causes something close to your call to be displayed, press F2, which will send out another blast of dots and dashes representing your call again and a 5NN signal report. Here's what you should see on the screen (I'll use my call): VE1DX VE1DX VE1DX (from F1) @sw iw ggVE1DX vveeeNN BK R TU DE VE1DX 5NN TU (from F2) keeTU tt-QRZ UP eea There! A good CW QSO with the DX station. Congratulations.

8. (b) Press, on the microphone, the button labeled PTT and scream your call three times and then listen. If you do not hear your call and a "fifty-nine", repeat the three screeches until you do. To avoid boredom, use nonstandard phonetics from time to time. e.g. Victoria Easy One Dog Echs Eventually you'll hear: Victor Echo One Delta X-Ray, fifty-nine There! A good SSB QSO with the DX station. Congratulations.
9. Press F6 to log the station, time and date on your disk.
10. Press F7 to print a label, and stick it on your QSL card.
11. Ask for the QSL information on as many Internet DX lists and USE-NET groups as you frequent.
12. When you get the QSL manager, key in the call sign, and stick the subsequent label on an envelope. Put in a SASE, your QSL card and

\$5-10. Affix sufficient postage, and mail it to the QSL manager.

13. After three days, complain on as many Internet DX lists and USE-NET groups as you frequent that the QSLs are late.
14. That's it. DXing-2000. Those of us who are unable or unwilling to do this are left to rehash the way it was, and point out that DXing isn't fun anymore. But . . . all things are relative, as Albert so often said, and the above may be fun for some.
15. As regards to your question on how to improve the process of working the rare DX station, I don't have to put on my thinking cap. The answer is obvious. "QSOs made with the assistance of a computer do not count for the DXCC award."

73/DX Paul VE1DX

Super Bargains

John Kennon has lots of stuff:

ICOM CT-17 Lever Controllers.

These controllers were never used for the Clipperton trip and are in New Condition. Four available at \$100 each.

HEIL SOUND FS-1 Footswitches - Four footswitches are available for \$10 each.

US Gov. GP-Small Tents - Three 15 Foot diameter surplus tents with poles. These tents can be used in cold areas (each has a stove pipe access port), have two entrance openings, screen covers and are in good condition (only used once at Clipperton). Perfect for Field day use or expeditions. \$600. each, shipping/delivery can be arranged.

US Gov. Cots - (10) Rebuilt, mostly alum frame. \$ 50.00 each.

120/240 Volt Generators - (2) These generators are still under manufactures warranty, are clean and were only used for 7 days. Five (5) kW with circuit breakers. Shipping and or delivery can be arranged.

Large items (tents, cots and generators) are available for rent, contact John.

Send a check to John at P. O. Box 81, Searchlight, Nevada 89046. Questions? E-Mail John at N7CQQ@laughlin.net.

Who We Are —

The BULLETin is published monthly by the Southern California DX Club and is mailed to all club members.

Please notify the BULLETin publisher if you do not receive your BULLETin, have a change of address, or have found an error.

Please direct all submissions for the BULLETin to the editor.

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Club Repeater: W6AM/R
145.48 MHz, 100 Hz PL

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Duane, AA6EE is offering SCDXC members discount prices on Callbook & ARRL items:

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Any other ARRL item available at discount. E-mail aa6ee@earthlink.net

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The FO0AAA video is still available. Cost is \$15 + \$5 shipping & handling. The URL for info and ordering instructions is at <http://www.qsl.net/clipperton2000>

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION, New or Renewal

Return to: Harvey Shore, 6433 Pat Avenue, West Hills, California 91307

CALL _____ NAME _____ DATE _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

E-MAIL _____

HOME TELEPHONE (____) ____ - _____ WORK TELEPHONE (____) ____ - _____

SPOUSE NAME/CALL (if desired to be listed in roster) _____

SCDXC Dues are \$18.00 per year, make checks payable to SCDXC

The TRW Swap Meet — Social Event of the Month

Possibly one of the most common activity (after looking for a P5) of club members has been the swap meet held at TRW on the last Saturday of the month. Some are there to sell. Some to buy. Most for the socializing.

Here are a few photos taken at the meet a few months back.



ARRL has been represented for a loooooong time. W A6W XO and W A6W ZN man the booth



It would be hard to imagine TRW without SMF and his bride, Arleen.



Buying or selling Lee?



What's in the bag Dan?

N6AA Guest at Jan Meeting



N6AA, Dick Norton gave us a report on his quest to work the CQWW from all 40 zones at the January meeting. He had a great set of slides of his recent operations in Russia. The stations he visited looked very much like a typical US station. Japanese solid-state transceivers and a computer or two. There was a lot of homebrew (antennas and accessories like rotators).

Dick commented that his hosts were very gracious, though the price of visas was very high.

Oh yes, he only has 3 more zones to be at the magic 40. We all congratulate him on his perseverance

Halo Antenna (cont)

(Continued from page 6)

am allowed to have an outside TV antenna or satellite dish. The previous president of our HOA used to give me a hard time about the loop from time to time in the past but the other members let me keep it. That past president has now moved away but just to keep the peace with the present HOA BOD I decided to disguise the loop antenna as a TV antenna. What I did was to get some wooden dowels for the TV elements, a wood strip for the TV boom, plastic AnHalo Anslamps, nylon nuts and bolts, and a can of gold paint to make my fake TV antenna. I took this wooden, fake TV antenna and superimposed it to the MFJ loop. The loop works much better than the vertical and I was finally able to work A52W this morning (at least I hope I'm in the log). I put the loop up just before the CQWWDX SSB and was able to work a HB0, 4U1VIC, 9M, AH2's, B1Z, B4A, CN8WW (3 bands), CQ9K, CT8K, D4A, DX1DBT, EA8's, FK8, FO's, FR's, GZ7V, H22H, HC8A, HL00, IH9P, JT1CO, JW5E, K5K/KH5K, KH8, T88, TF3, V6T1, V73, V8A, ZB2X, ZK1NJC, ZS's, bunches of EU's in zones 14, 15, and 16, many VK's and a couple of ZL's and a ton of JA's, plus many SA. I was running 100w and worked search and pounce to stations calling CQ. The HB0 and ZB2 were new ones for me.

DX can be worked with less than perfect antennas. I don't always get an answer on the first or second call as I do from K6NX but am really surprised when it does happen quite frequently even when I can barely hear the station calling. Of course it is because of the operator and antennas at the DX end but I am surprised I can get through. This is also to thank some of those stations who had to listen close to hear me through the mud.

Setting levels for PSK31

To setup the audio levels adjust the sound card output level using the computer 'mixer' control until maximum transmit power is reached, and the ALC is just starting to read. Then tune to a strong carrier and adjust the soundcard input gain until the *red line* goes away as observed on the spectrum display. (waterfall indicator)

International DX Convention

This year the Northern California DX Club will run the Visalia Convention. We hope to see you all there!

Pre-Registration Form

International DX Convention (Visalia) April 20-22, 2001

Banquet Meal Choice(s):

C = Chicken, P = Prime Rib, S = Salmon (Circle Below)

Name _____ Call _____ C P S Meal

Name _____ Call _____ C P S

Name _____ Call _____ C P S

Name _____ Call _____ C P S

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Country, USA or (?) _____

Email address: _____ @ _____

Pre-Registration, Post Marked by 4-7-01, \$60.00 per person. -- \$ _____

Non-Amateur: Dinner & Breakfast only, \$35.00 per person ---- \$ _____

Total - \$ _____

After 4-7-01 or at the Convention = \$65.00. -----Your Check # _____

Please, make check payable to: NCDXC Convention 01.

(Please, do not send cash!)

Mail this Form and payment to:

IDXC % Dick Letrich, W6KM
3686 Kirk Road
San Jose, CA 95124-3816

Convention Location: Holiday Inn Plaza Park,
9000 W. Airport Drive, Visalia, CA
Tel. 559-651-5000